

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 25 and 26 are pending.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over *Reid* et al (US 2001/0015321) in view of *Basol* (US 6,921,551), *Mayer* et al (US 6,946,065) and the Lowenheim. Text *Electroplating*.

Changes in the Claims:

Claim 1 has been amended in this application to further particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 USC §103(a) – claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 25 and 26

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 25 and 26 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over *Reid* et al (US 2001/0015321) in view of *Basol* (US 6,921,551), *Mayer* et al (US 6,946,065) and the Lowenheim. Text *Electroplating*. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed combination of *Reid*, *Basol*, *Mayer* and *Lowenheim* does not teach or suggest all of the claim limitations of claim 1.

As pointed by the Office Action, *Mayer* teaches that the additives interact with each other (Col. 17, lines 7-8). *Basol* teaches that chloride is known to interact with these additives. However, the combined teachings of *Reid*, *Basol*, *Mayer* and *Lowenheim* do not teach or suggest the sequential steps of the method as recited in Claim 1.

Applicant therefore submits that the rejection based the *Reid*, *Basol*, *Mayer* and *Lowenheim* reference be withdrawn. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 25 and 26 recite novel subject matter which distinguishes over any possible combination of *Reid*, *Basol*, *Mayer* and *Lowenheim*.

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the amended claims are now in proper form, and that the amended claims all define patentable subject matter over the prior art. Therefore, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance.

Request for allowance

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

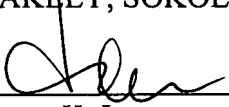
Extension of Time

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3), applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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Thierry K. Lo
Reg. No. 49,097

12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300